31st October 1933]

10 p.m. and should not be opened except with the express permission of the House Surgeon who is on duty then;

(b) if so, whether it is in force or whether it is merely a dead letter; and

(c) if it is in force, whether it is strictly observed and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) Yes; but it is the Assistant Surgeon on duty who is the authority to grant permission for opening the gate after 10 p.m. and not the House Surgeon.

(b) It is in force.

(c) The rule is being strictly observed.

Public Health and Sanitation

Progress of the scheme for the supply of drinking water from the Mettur Reservoir to Salem town.

* 191 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the scheme for the drinking water-supply to Salem town from Mettur Reservoir is;

(b) whether orders have been passed for the preparation of detailed plans and estimates in this behalf;

(c) if the answer to clause (b) be in the negative, what the delay is due to;

(d) when the work is expected to be taken up and what the approximate time to complete it will be; and

(e) what amount of grant and what amount as loan do the Government propose to give for this work?

A.—(a) to (e) A reference is being issued to the municipal council asking whether it is prepared to agree to finance the scheme on the basis of a half grant and half loan. No orders have yet been passed for the preparation of detailed plans and estimates as the financing of the scheme has not been finally settled. If the council agrees to the proposals of the Government and if a special establishment is sanctioned, it will take more than a year to complete the preparation of detailed plans and estimates. The execution of the scheme may take six years. If the scheme is finally approved, the Government grant and loan for the work, will each amount to Rs. 11 lakhs.

Supply of drinking water from Mettur Reservoir to Salem town.

* 192 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage the scheme to supply drinking water to Salem town from Mettur Reservoir is;

(b) whether the scheme has been sanctioned and plans and estimates have been called for; and

[31st October 1933

(c) if so, on what terms and when the work may be expected to be taken up on hand and what the recurring and non-recurring cost of the scheme and its maintenance will be?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The scheme to supply water to Salem town from the Mettur dam has not yet been sanctioned; nor have any orders been issued for the preparation of plans and estimates. It is proposed to ask the municipal council whether it is prepared to accept the proposals for financing the scheme on the basis of a half grant and half loan.

The approximate capital cost of the scheme is estimated at Rs. 22 lakhs and the annual maintenance charges at Rs. 52,720. If the council takes a loan of Rs. 11 lakhs towards its share of the cost and if it agrees to repay the loan in 30 years with interest at $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, it will have to find a sum of Rs. 77,788 in addition to the maintenance charges. The attention of the hon. Member is also invited to the answer to question No. 191.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know when the Government propose to issue final orders on this question?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The question of the actual charge for water supplied is under examination; as soon as that is over, orders will be passed."

Supply of drinking water from Mettur dam to Salem town.

* 193 Q.—Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage the supply of drinking water to Salem town from Mettur project stands; and

(b) for how long the question of the supply of drinking water to Salem town from Mettur project has been pending?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Legislative Council question No. 191;

(b) The Sanitary Engineer's report on the investigation of the water-supply scheme was received in July 1931 and it has been under consideration since then.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Proposals by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board for the appointment of Commissioners to Mutts.

* 194 Q.—Mr. K. SINGAM AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board now pending before the Government for appointing Commissioners to the various Mutts; and